KENTUCKY AGRI-NEWS

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MARCH 1 PLANTING INTENTIONS

U.S. HIGHLIGHTS

Corn growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2002, up 4 percent from 2001 but down 1 percent from 2000. Expected acreage was up in many areas of the United States and in virtually all areas of the Corn Belt.

Soybean producers intend to plant 73.0 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. Reduced soybean acreage was offset by an expected increase in corn plantings in most areas. Crop rotations, farm bill uncertainty, and price considerations were cited as primary reasons for the reduced soybean acreage.

Winter wheat planted area was 41.1 million acres, nearly identical to the previous year's acreage. This was the lowest seeded acres since 1971.

Eight-State Burley Belt intends to set 158,600 acres, down 5,900 acres from 2001.

KENTUCKY

Planting intentions for the three major crops were mixed. Intended corn acreage was up from the 2001 crop season while tobacco and soybean acreages were down. Intended acreage for hay, wheat and barley were unchanged from the previous year while sorghum acreage was up. The intentions survey was conducted as of March 1 and represent the acreage farmers intend to plant and/or harvest as of that date. Winter wheat and barley were seeded in the fall of 2001.

Farmers intend to plant 1.27 million acres of **corn**. This was up 70,000 acres from the previous year. **Soybean** acreage was expected to total 1.17 million acres, down 70,000 acres from the 2001 crop. This would be the smallest acreage since 1995. With the decrease in soybean acreage from 2001, farmers intend to increase their acreage planted to corn.

Burley tobacco growers intend to set 100,000 acres for harvest, down 5,000 acres from the 2001 harvested acreage. The decrease in acreage resulted from a decrease in effective quota. The basic poundage quota for Kentucky was 222.1 million pounds and the effective quota was 224.5 million pounds. Acreage set to **dark-fired tobacco** totaled 4,900 acres, down 1,500 acres from their 2001 acreage. Acres set to **dark-air tobacco** was 3,400 acres, down 900 acres. Like burley, the acreage reduction was brought about by a reduction in quota.

Winter wheat seeded in the fall of 2001 totaled 550,000 acres, unchanged from the 2001 crop. **Sorghum** intended acreage totaled 12,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from the previous year. This would be the largest planted acreage in 6 years. **Barley** acreage at 9,000 acres has been steady since the 1999 crop. Farmers intend to harvest 2.35 million acres of **all hay**, the same as the previous year. All hay is made up of alfalfa and all other hay. The acreage of all hay harvested during the summer depends to a great measure on moisture received during the growing season and temperatures experienced.

MARCH 1, 2002 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS-PLANTED ACRES, KENTUCKY & UNITED STATES

CROPS	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
	2001	Ind. 2002	02 % of 01	2001	Ind. 2002	02 % of 01
	(Thousand Acres)		Percent	(Thousand Acres)		Percent
All Tobacco 1/	115.7	108.3	94	432.6	429.4	99
Burley Tobacco 1/	105.0	100.0	95	164.5	158.6	96
Corn	1,200	1,270	106	75,752	79,047	104
Soybeans	1,240	1,170	94	74,105	72,966	98
All Sorghum	11	12	109	10,252	9,015	88
All Wheat 2/	550	550	100	59,617	59,004	99
All Hay 1/	2,350	2,350	100	63,511	63,743	100
Barley 2/	9	9	100	4,967	5,078	102

1/ Harvested acreage. 2/ Includes acreage planted preceding fall.

KENTUCKY LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN PRICES BOTH MIXED

Steers and heifers at mid-March averaged $79.00 per cwt. This was $2.00 above February while down $5.00 from March 2001. The mid-month price was the highest price in 6 months. **Beef cow** price was $41.00 per cwt., up $1.00 from last month while down $1.00 from the previous year. Prices received for **calves** 500 pounds and under averaged $97.00 per cwt. for mid-March. This was up $2.00 from February and down $6.00 from March a year earlier. The current $97.00 price was the highest in 8 months.

Barrow and gilt price for March at $35.00 per cwt. was down $3.00 from February and $9.00 from March a year earlier. **Sows** averaged $29.00 per cwt. for mid-month. The price was up $2.00 from February while down $5.00 from a year earlier.

The **all milk** price was $13.70 per cwt. at mid-March. This was down 20 cents from the previous month and $1.40 from the previous year.

The March **corn** price at $2.05 per bushel was 9 cents below February and 15 cents below a year earlier. Prior to the March decline in price, corn price had been on a general increase since last November. Prices received for **soybeans** at $4.50 per bushel at mid-month was up 7 cents from February. The March 2001 price was $4.56 per bushel. **Winter wheat** prices averaged $2.70 per bushel. This was down 13 cents from the previous month and up 1 cent from the previous year.

The preliminary **U.S.** Prices Received by Farmers Index for All Farm Products in March was 106, using a 1990-92=100 base period, up 7 points (7.1 percent) from the February index. A record price for lettuce, along with other increases for eggs, cattle, and tomatoes, more than offset decreased prices for broilers, milk, hogs, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher marketings for strawberries, lettuce, milk, and tomatoes more than offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, corn, and cotton. Compared with March 2001, the Prices Received Index was up 2 points (1.9 percent). Higher prices for lettuce, strawberries, potatoes, and apples more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, cattle, and tomatoes.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS - (Dollars)

COMMODITY	UNIT	KENTUCKY MAR 2001	KENTUCKY FEB 2002	KENTUCKY MAR 2002	US MAR 2002
		Entire Month		Mid-Month a/	
All Corn b/ c/	Bu.	2.20	2.14	2.05	1.92
Soybeans b/	Bu.	4.56	4.43	4.50	4.39
Winter Wheat b/	Bu.	2.69	2.83	2.70	2.76
Alfalfa Hay, baled	Ton	110.00	105.00	105.00	98.80
All Other Hay,	Ton	66.00	61.00	61.00	73.00
All Hogs	Cwt.	43.60	37.60	34.80	36.30
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	44.00	38.00	35.00	36.60
Sows	Cwt.	34.00	27.00	29.00	30.10
All Beef Cattle d/	Cwt.	73.90	68.10	69.90	71.60
Steers & Heifers e/	Cwt.	84.00	77.00	79.00	75.30
Cows	Cwt.	42.00	40.00	41.00	42.40
Calves f/	Cwt.	103.00	95.00	97.00	104.00
Milk Wholesale					
All	Cwt.	15.10	13.90	13.70	12.70
Fluid g/	Cwt.	15.10	13.90	--	12.70
Manufactured	Cwt.	10.30	11.40	--	11.30
Hog-Corn Ratios h/	Bu.	19.8	17.6	17.0	18.9

a/ Preliminary. b/ Includes contract sales paid during month. c/ Includes yellow and white corn. d/ "Steers and heifers" and "cows" combined. e/ 500 lbs. and over. f/ Under 500 lbs. g/ Includes surplus diverted to manufacturing. h/ Number of bushels of corn equal in value to 100 lbs. of hog live weight.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.50 billion pounds in February, up 3 percent from the 3.40 billion pounds produced in February 2001. February 2001 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays. February 2002 contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 1.99 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, up 1 percent from February 2001. The average live weight was 1,255 pounds, up 38 pounds from February a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.48 billion pounds, virtually unchanged from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.50 million head, 1 percent below February 2001. The average live weight was 267 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION 1/

Type	Feb. 2001	Jan. 2002	Feb. 2002	Feb. 02 % of Feb. 2001	Feb. 02 % of Jan. 2002
	Million Pounds			Percent	
Beef	1,881	2,330	1,987	106	85
Veal	16	17	14	92	85
Pork	1,486	1,716	1,482	100	86
Lamb & Mutton	17	18	18	101	101
Total U.S.	3,400	4,081	3,501	103	86
Total Kentucky	34.4	40.2	32.7	95	81

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 2001 & 2002 1/

Type	Number Slaughtered 2001	Number Slaughtered 2002	Total Live Weight 2001	Total Live Weight 2002	Average Live 2001	Average Live 2002
	1,000 head		1,000 lbs.		Pounds	
Kentucky						
Cattle	1.2	1.5	1,008	1,260	856	842
Hogs	168.7	161.2	45,092	42,676	267	265
Sheep & Lambs	0.4	0.8	71	114	169	149
United States						
Cattle	2,580.4	2,614.8	3,139,330	3,281,868	1,217	1,255
Hogs	7,604.2	7,500.0	2,005,167	1,999,833	264	267
Sheep & Lambs	245.4	256.1	35,197	35,323	143	138

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

MARCH 1 HOG & PIG INVENTORY

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1, 2002, was 58.7 million head. This was 2 percent above March 2001, but 1 percent below December 1, 2001.

Breeding inventory, at 6.24 million head, was up slightly from both March 1, 2001, and last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 52.5 million head, was 2 percent above last year but 1 percent below last quarter.

The December 2001-February 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 24.7 million head, was 3 percent more than 2001, and 1 percent more than 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.83 million head, 3 percent above last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 46 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter was 8.73 pigs saved per litter for the December 2001-February 2002 period, compared to 8.72 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.30 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 8.80 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.90 million sows farrow during the March-May 2002 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrowings during the same period in 2001, and slightly above 2000. Intended farrowings for June-August 2002, at 2.90 million sows, are 1 percent above the same period in 2001, and up slightly from 2000.

The total number of hogs under contract, owned by operations with over 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 31 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, down from 32 percent last year.

HOGS AND PIGS: INVENTORY NUMBERS BY CLASS & WEIGHT GROUPS
MARCH 1, 2001 - 2002, SELECTED STATES AND U.S.

State	TOTAL		BREEDING		MARKET		MARKET HOGS							
	2002 1,000 Head	2002 % of 2001	2002 1,000 Head	2002 % of 2001	2002 1,000 Head	2002 % of 2001	Under 60 lbs.		60-119 lbs		120-179 lbs		180 lbs +	
							2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
							(1,000 Head)							
AR	590	91	105	100	485	89	195	250	130	65	120	80	100	90
CO	790	104	180	100	610	105	310	330	75	95	85	70	110	115
IL	4,150	102	450	102	3,700	102	1,280	1,310	870	910	830	810	630	670
IN	3,150	100	340	94	2,810	101	1,010	1,010	670	700	560	570	550	530
IA	14,900	103	1,120	100	13,780	104	3,980	4,360	3,600	3,700	3,070	3,120	2,630	2,600
KS	1,600	106	170	106	1,430	106	460	490	275	270	245	280	370	390
MI	960	107	120	100	840	108	310	310	185	215	160	165	125	150
MN	5,800	100	570	97	5,230	100	2,040	2,080	1,310	1,320	1,090	1,060	770	770
MO	2,950	102	370	97	2,580	102	1,110	1,130	610	620	500	510	300	320
NE	2,950	102	390	108	2,560	101	990	1,040	650	660	510	490	390	370
NC	9,600	103	1,000	100	8,600	104	3,350	3,400	1,800	1,950	1,700	1,750	1,450	1,500
OH	1,470	101	165	100	1,305	102	540	545	305	310	280	290	160	160
OK	2,290	102	330	97	1,960	103	840	860	320	310	260	280	480	510
PA	1,090	106	130	108	960	105	335	345	240	255	185	200	150	160
SD	1,270	100	150	111	1,120	99	390	375	300	295	245	265	200	185
TX	910	101	100	111	810	100	265	265	170	175	160	165	215	205
WI	500	85	60	75	440	86	190	165	110	105	110	90	100	80
Other 1/	3,728	101	486	100	3,241	100	1,142	1,116	797	775	695	719	604	631
U.S.	58,698	102	6,236	100	52,461	102	18,737	19,381	12,417	12,730	10,805	10,914	9,334	9,436

1/Individual State estimates not available for the 33 other States. Kentucky included in Other States.

CORN STOCKS DOWN SLIGHTLY FROM A YEAR AGO

Kentucky corn stocks totaled 62.8 million bushels on March 1, 2002. This was down fractionally from the previous year when stocks totaled 63.0 million bushels. Corn stored in off-farm facilities totaled 23.8 million bushels, up 13 percent from March 1, 2001. Off-farm stocks include grain stored at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. On-farm stocks totaled 39.0 million bushels, down 3.0 million bushels from the previous March stocks. Soybean and wheat stocks estimates in Kentucky are published only for off-farm stocks. On-farm stocks are not estimated for the State. Off-farm stocks of **soybeans** totaled 7.82 million bushels, up slightly from the 7.07 million bushels stored a year earlier. Kentucky off-farm stocks of **all wheat** was 3.85 million bushels, well below the 5.23 million bushel stored on March 1, 2001.

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2002 totaled 5.80 billion bushels, down 4 percent from March 1, 2001. Of the total stocks, 3.36 billion bushels were stored on farms, down 7 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 2.44 billion bushels, were down slightly from the previous year. **Soybeans** stored in all positions on March 1, 2002, totaled 1.34 billion bushels, down 5 percent from March 1, 2001. On-farm stocks totaled 687 million bushels, down 12 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 649 million bushels were up 4 percent from a year earlier. **All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2002 totaled 1.21 billion bushels, down 10 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks were estimated at 339 million bushels, down 12 percent from last year. Off-farm stocks, at 872 million bushels, were down 9 percent from a year ago.

KENTUCKY AND UNITED STATES STOCKS OF GRAIN, MARCH 1, 2002 WITH COMPARISONS

CROP	POSITION	KENTUCKY			UNITED STATES		
		March 1 2001	Dec. 1 2001	March 1 2002	March 1 2001	Dec. 1 2001	March 1 2002
		(Thousand Bushels)					
Corn	On-Farm	42,000	82,000	39,000	3,600,000	5,275,000	3,355,000
	Off-Farm 1/	21,004	27,520	23,755	2,442,999	2,989,715 5/	2,441,473
	Total	63,004	109,520	62,755	6,042,999	8,264,715 5/	5,796,473
Sorghum	On-Farm	2/	2/	2/	40,100	72,400	38,100
	Off-Farm 1/	4/	4/	4/	127,027	241,477 5/	156,151
	Total	2/	2/	2/	167,127	313,817 5/	194,251
Oats	On-Farm	3/	3/	3/	55,800	58,100	39,800
	Off-Farm 1/	4/	4/	4/	54,128	56,117 5/	52,997
	Total	3/	4/	4/	109,928	114,217 5/	92,797
Barley	On-Farm	2/	2/	2/	58,600	92,600 5/	46,000
	Off-Farm 1/	4/	4/	4/	103,544	102,587 5/	95,472
	Total	2/	2/	2/	162,144	195,187 5/	141,742
All Wheat	On-Farm	2/	2/	2/	384,750	517,890	338,500
	Off-Farm 1/	5,276	6,391	3,849	953,648	1,105,565 5/	872,223
	Total	2/	2/	2/	1,338,398	1,623,455 5/	1,210,723
Soybeans	On-Farm	2/	2/	2/	780,000	1,240,000	687,000
	Off-Farm 1/	7,067	9,885	7,823	623,908	1,035,618 5/	648,976
	Total	2/	2/	2/	1,403,908	2,275,618 5/	1,335,976

1/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. 2/ Kentucky is a minor State, not published separately. 3/ On-Farm oat stocks estimates not made.
4/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations. 5/ Revised.

Internet Access: Kentucky Agricultural Statistics Service (KASS) data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at **http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky**. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) homepage located at **http://www.usda.gov/nass/**

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